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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/771,491	01/27/2001	Raymond Anthony Joao	RJ180	7937

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RAYMOND A. JOAO, ESQ.
122 BELLEVUE PLACE
YONKERS, NY 10703

EXAMINER

VAN BRAMER, JOHN W

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3622

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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10/17/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/771,491	Applicant(s) JOAO, RAYMOND ANTHONY	
	Examiner JOHN VAN BRAMER	Art Unit 3622	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02 June 2008.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 101, 102, 104-119, 123 and 124 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 101, 102, 104-119, 123 and 124 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. The amendment filed on June 2, 2008 has cancelled claims 121 and 122. New claims 123 and 124 were added and claims 101 was amended. Thus, the currently pending claims in the applications are Claims 101, 102, 104-119, 123 and 124.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention

3. Claims 104-114; 116-119; 123 and 124 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Independent claim 1 is directed towards a computer implemented method which allows two or more parties to establish and confirm the establishment of an affiliated marketing relationship. The scope of claim 1, as currently written, does not encompass the operation and interactions that occur after the affiliated marketing relationship has been established. As such the claim limitation in claims 104-114; 116-119; 123 and 124 which are directed towards the operation of the affiliated marketing relationship between the two or more parties are outside the scope of the claims as currently written. The examiner suggests amending claim 101 to include steps directed

towards the operation of the affiliated marketing relationship after the currently claimed relationship establishment steps. For the purpose of examination, the examiner has attempted to consider claim 101, in a manner which envisions the inclusions of operational steps that may be claimed in the future.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 101, 102, and 115-117 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ginter et al. (U.S. Patent Number: 5,892,900) in view of Merriman et al. (U.S. Patent Number: 5,948,061).

Claim 101: Ginter discloses a computer-implemented method, comprising:

- a. Receiving and storing information regarding a first request by a content provider to be notified regarding an occurrence of an event, wherein the event is storing of information for establishing an affiliated marketing relationship. (Col 1, lines 17-20; Col 2, lines 32-56; Col 3, lines 42-45; Col 4, lines 28-43; Col 6, lines 15-28; Col 7, lines 25-33; Col 8, lines 20-49; Col 9, lines 10-18; Col 9, lines 46-58; Col

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269, lines 16-53; Col 270, lines 23-37; Col 270, line 67 through Col 271, line 60; Col 273, line 53 through Col 274, line 18; Col 274, lines 39-65; Col 276, lines 25-50; Col 291, line 57 through Col 292, line 27; and Col 310, lines 5-37)

- b. At least one of receiving and storing information for establishing an affiliated marketing relationship (Col 1, lines 17-20; Col 2, lines 32-56; Col 3, lines 42-45; Col 4, lines 28-43; Col 6, lines 15-28; Col 7, lines 25-33; Col 8, lines 20-49; Col 9, lines 10-18; Col 9, lines 46-58; Col 269, lines 16-53; Col 270, lines 23-37; Col 270, line 67 through Col 271, line 60; Col 273, line 53 through Col 274, line 18; Col 274, lines 39-65; Col 276, lines 25-50; Col 291, line 57 through Col 292, line 27; and Col 310, lines 5-37)
- c. Detecting the occurrence of the event with a processing device. (Col 1, lines 17-20; Col 2, lines 32-56; Col 3, lines 42-45; Col 4, lines 28-43; Col 6, lines 15-28; Col 7, lines 25-33; Col 8, lines 20-49; Col 9, lines 10-18; Col 9, lines 46-58; Col 269, lines 16-53; Col 270, lines 23-37; Col 270, line 67 through Col 271, line 60; Col 273, line 53 through Col 274, line 18; Col 274, lines 39-65; Col 276, lines 25-50; Col 291, line 57 through Col 292, line 27; and Col 310, lines 5-37)
- d. Generating a first message containing information regarding the event with the processing device, wherein the first message is automatically generated by the processing device in response to the occurrence of the event. (Col 1, lines 17-20; Col 2, lines 32-56; Col 3, lines 42-45; Col 4, lines 28-43; Col 6, lines 15-28; Col 7, lines 25-33; Col 8, lines 20-49; Col 9, lines 10-18; Col 9, lines 46-58; Col 269, lines 16-53; Col 270, lines 23-37; Col 270, line 67 through Col 271, line 60; Col

273, line 53 through Col 274, line 18; Col 274, lines 39-65; Col 276, lines 25-50; Col 291, line 57 through Col 292, line 27; and Col 310, lines 5-37)

- e. Transmitting the message to a computer or a communication device associated with the content provider. (Col 1, lines 17-20; Col 2, lines 32-56; Col 3, lines 42-45; Col 4, lines 28-43; Col 6, lines 15-28; Col 7, lines 25-33; Col 8, lines 20-49; Col 9, lines 10-18; Col 9, lines 46-58; Col 269, lines 16-53; Col 270, lines 23-37; Col 270, line 67 through Col 271, line 60; Col 273, line 53 through Col 274, line 18; Col 274, lines 39-65; Col 276, lines 25-50; Col 291, line 57 through Col 292, line 27; and Col 310, lines 5-37)
- f. Receiving a second request, wherein the second request is transmitted from the computer or the communication device associated with the content provider, wherein the second request is a request for information regarding an offer by a merchant associated with the event to create or establish a marketing relationship. (Col 1, lines 17-20; Col 2, lines 32-56; Col 3, lines 42-45; Col 4, lines 28-43; Col 6, lines 15-28; Col 7, lines 25-33; Col 8, lines 20-49; Col 9, lines 10-18; Col 9, lines 46-58; Col 269, lines 16-53; Col 270, lines 23-37; Col 270, line 67 through Col 271, line 60; Col 273, line 53 through Col 274, line 18; Col 274, lines 39-65; Col 276, lines 25-50; Col 291, line 57 through Col 292, line 27; and Col 310, lines 5-37)
- g. Generating a second message, wherein the second message contains information regarding the offer by the merchant to create or establish a marketing relationship and at least one of information regarding the merchant and contact

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information regarding the merchant. (Col 1, lines 17-20; Col 2, lines 32-56; Col 3, lines 42-45; Col 4, lines 28-43; Col 6, lines 15-28; Col 7, lines 25-33; Col 8, lines 20-49; Col 9, lines 10-18; Col 9, lines 46-58; Col 269, lines 16-53; Col 270, lines 23-37; Col 270, line 67 through Col 271, line 60; Col 273, line 53 through Col 274, line 18; Col 274, lines 39-65; Col 276, lines 25-50; Col 291, line 57 through Col 292, line 27; and Col 310, lines 5-37)

h. Transmitting the second message to the computer or the communication device associated with the content provider. (Col 1, lines 17-20; Col 2, lines 32-56; Col 3, lines 42-45; Col 4, lines 28-43; Col 6, lines 15-28; Col 7, lines 25-33; Col 8, lines 20-49; Col 9, lines 10-18; Col 9, lines 46-58; Col 269, lines 16-53; Col 270, lines 23-37; Col 270, line 67 through Col 271, line 60; Col 273, line 53 through Col 274, line 18; Col 274, lines 39-65; Col 276, lines 25-50; Col 291, line 57 through Col 292, line 27; and Col 310, lines 5-37)

i. Receiving information indicating that the content provider has accepted the offer by the merchant to create or establish a marketing relationship. (Col 1, lines 17-20; Col 2, lines 32-56; Col 3, lines 42-45; Col 4, lines 28-43; Col 6, lines 15-28; Col 7, lines 25-33; Col 8, lines 20-49; Col 9, lines 10-18; Col 9, lines 46-58; Col 269, lines 16-53; Col 270, lines 23-37; Col 270, line 67 through Col 271, line 60; Col 273, line 53 through Col 274, line 18; Col 274, lines 39-65; Col 276, lines 25-50; Col 291, line 57 through Col 292, line 27; and Col 310, lines 5-37)

j. Processing the information indicating that the content provider has accepted the offer by the merchant to create or establish a marketing relationship between the

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merchant and the content provider. (Col 1, lines 17-20; Col 2, lines 32-56; Col 3, lines 42-45; Col 4, lines 28-43; Col 6, lines 15-28; Col 7, lines 25-33; Col 8, lines 20-49; Col 9, lines 10-18; Col 9, lines 46-58; Col 269, lines 16-53; Col 270, lines 23-37; Col 270, line 67 through Col 271, line 60; Col 273, line 53 through Col 274, line 18; Col 274, lines 39-65; Col 276, lines 25-50; Col 291, line 57 through Col 292, line 27; and Col 310, lines 5-37)

- k. Storing information regarding the marketing relationship between the merchant and the content provider in a database or a memory device. (Col 1, lines 17-20; Col 2, lines 32-56; Col 3, lines 42-45; Col 4, lines 28-43; Col 6, lines 15-28; Col 7, lines 25-33; Col 8, lines 20-49; Col 9, lines 10-18; Col 9, lines 46-58; Col 269, lines 16-53; Col 270, lines 23-37; Col 270, line 67 through Col 271, line 60; Col 273, line 53 through Col 274, line 18; Col 274, lines 39-65; Col 276, lines 25-50; Col 291, line 57 through Col 292, line 27; and Col 310, lines 5-37)
- l. Generating a third message containing information that the affiliated marketing relationship was created or established between the merchant and the content provider. (Col 1, lines 17-20; Col 2, lines 32-56; Col 3, lines 42-45; Col 4, lines 28-43; Col 6, lines 15-28; Col 7, lines 25-33; Col 8, lines 20-49; Col 9, lines 10-18; Col 9, lines 46-58; Col 269, lines 16-53; Col 270, lines 23-37; Col 270, line 67 through Col 271, line 60; Col 273, line 53 through Col 274, line 18; Col 274, lines 39-65; Col 276, lines 25-50; Col 291, line 57 through Col 292, line 27; and Col 310, lines 5-37)

m. Transmitting the third message to a communication device or a computer associated with the merchant. (Col 1, lines 17-20; Col 2, lines 32-56; Col 3, lines 42-45; Col 4, lines 28-43; Col 6, lines 15-28; Col 7, lines 25-33; Col 8, lines 20-49; Col 9, lines 10-18; Col 9, lines 46-58; Col 269, lines 16-53; Col 270, lines 23-37; Col 270, line 67 through Col 271, line 60; Col 273, line 53 through Col 274, line 18; Col 274, lines 39-65; Col 276, lines 25-50; Col 291, line 57 through Col 292, line 27; and Col 310, lines 5-37)

While Ginter does not specifically state that the marketing relationship is an affiliated marketing relationship the analogous art of Merriman discloses a marketing relationship involving affiliated sites. Additionally, Ginter discloses that the invention provides for administration of differing content and marketing strategies in Col 9, lines 10-18. Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to utilize the invention disclosed by Ginter to establish affiliated marketing relationships. The rationale for doing so is that affiliated marketing relationships are one of a limited number of well known predictable marketing relationships that were available at the time of the invention.

Claim 102: Ginter and Merriman disclose the computer-implemented method of Claim 101, wherein the computer implemented method is performed via, on, or over at least one of the Internet and the World Wide Web. (Col 1, lines 17-20; Col 2, lines 32-56; Col 3, lines 42-45; Col 4, lines 28-43; Col 6, lines 15-28; Col 7, lines 25-33; Col 8, lines 20-49; Col 9, lines 10-18; Col 9, lines 46-58; Col 269, lines 16-53; Col

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270, lines 23-37; Col 270, line 67 through Col 271, line 60; Col 273, line 53 through Col 274, line 18; Col 274, lines 39-65; Col 276, lines 25-50; Col 291, line 57 through Col 292, line 27; and Col 310, lines 5-37)

Claim 115: Ginter and Merriman disclose the computer implemented method of claim 101. While Ginter and Merriman are silent regarding the method used for contacting the merchant to provide information regarding the number of placements server, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to contact the merchant via a common communication means such as the telephone, postal mail, or electronic mail. The rationale for doing so is that there are a limited number of predictable ways in which the information could be conveyed to the merchant and e-mail is one such predictable method.

Claims 116 and 117: Ginter disclose the computer implemented method of claim 101, further comprising administering a financial account for the merchant or the content provider. (Ginter: Col 1, lines 17-20; Col 2, lines 32-56; Col 3, lines 42-45; Col 4, lines 28-43; Col 6, lines 15-28; Col 7, lines 25-33; Col 8, lines 20-49; Col 9, lines 10-18; Col 9, lines 46-58; Col 269, lines 16-53; Col 270, lines 23-37; Col 270, line 67 through Col 271, line 60; Col 273, line 53 through Col 274, line 18; Col 274, lines 39-65; Col 276, lines 25-50; Col 291, line 57 through Col 292, line 27; and Col 310, lines 5-37)

6. Claims 104, 106-108, 111, 114, 118, 119, 23 and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ginter et al. (U.S. Patent Number: 5,892,900) in view of Merriman et al. (U.S. Patent Number: 5,948,061) in further view of Capek (U.S. Patent Number: 6,026,369).

Claim 104: Ginter and Merriman disclose the computer-implemented method of Claim 101. While the art of Ginter does not specifically state that information regarding an advertisement associated with the merchant is transmitted to a computer associated with the content provider via, on, or over, at least one of the Internet and the World Wide Web, Ginter does disclose the establishment and operation of marketing and electronic commerce relationship that works within the context of operating electronic commerce operations (Col 1, lines 17-20; Col 2, lines 32-56; Col 3, lines 42-45; Col 4, lines 28-43; Col 6, lines 15-28; Col 7, lines 25-33; Col 8, lines 20-49; Col 9, lines 10-18; Col 9, lines 46-58). The analogous art of Capek discloses an electronic commerce and advertising operation in which information regarding an advertisement associated with the merchant is transmitted to the content provider (Col 1, lines 5-20). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the contracting and negotiation system of Ginter with the electronic commerce and advertising system of Ginter. The rationale for doing so is that the open design of the Ginter disclosure allows applications using technology independently created to be

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added to the system and used in conjunction with the foundations of the invention
(Ginter: Col 7, lines 25-34)

Claim 106: Ginter, Merriman and Capek disclose the computer implemented method of Claim 104. While Ginter, Merriman and Capek do not specifically state that the advertisement contains printed matter that include a logo or an icon, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include a corporate icon or logo on the advertisement. The rationale for including such a logo or icon is that the majority of advertisements include such predictable printed matter. Such printed matter is typically included in order to provide customers with a method of identifying the company that produces the product or service that is advertised.

Claim 107: Ginter, Merriman and Capek disclose the computer implemented method of Claim 104, wherein the information regarding an advertisement associated with the merchant includes a link to a computer or a web site associated with the merchant. (Capek: Col 4, lines 15-39)

Claim 108: Ginter, Merriman and Capek disclose the computer implemented method of Claim 104, further comprising: placing information regarding the advertisement associated with the merchant on a computer or a web site associated

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with the content provider. (Capek: Col 3, line 66 through Col 4, line 1; and Col 4, lines 15-39)

Claim 111: Ginter, Merriman and Capek disclose the computer implemented method of Claim 101, further comprising: processing information regarding a web site or a link visited, utilized, or navigated, by an individual or a user in connecting to a computer or a web site associated with the merchant. (Capek: Col 4, lines 15-39)

Claim 114: Ginter, Merriman and Capek disclose the computer implemented method of claim 101, further comprising: at least one of storing and providing information regarding a past success rate of an advertisement and a success rate of the content provider. (Col 3, lines 66 through Col 4, line 8)

Claim 118: Ginter, Merriman and Capek disclose the computer implemented method of claim 101, further comprising:

- a. Processing information regarding a transaction pursuant to the affiliated marketing relationship. (Capek: Col 3, lines 1 through Col 4, line 7)
- b. Generating a transaction notification report containing information regarding the transaction and a commission or a referral fee due to the content provider. (Capek: Col 3, lines 1 through Col 4, line 7)

- c. Transmitting the transaction notification report to the computer or the communication device associated with the content provider. (Capek: Col 3, lines 1 through Col 4, line 7)

Claim 119: Ginter, Merriman and Capek disclose the computer-implemented method of claim 101, further comprising:

- a. Providing notification to the content provider of the occurrence of a transaction pursuant to the affiliated marketing relationship. (Capek: Col 3, lines 1 through Col 4, line 7)
- b. Determining a commission or a referral fee due to the content provider as a result of the transaction. (Capek: Col 3, lines 1 through Col 4, line 7)
- c. Effecting a payment of the commission or the referral fee to an account associated with the content provider. (Capek: Col 3, lines 1 through Col 4, line 7)

Claim 123: Ginter, Merriman and Capek the computer-implemented method of claim 101, further comprising processing information regarding a purchase or a sale of an advertisement space. (Capek: Col 3, lines 1 through Col 4, line 7)

Claim 124: Ginter, Merriman and Capek the computer implemented method of claim 101, further comprising processing information regarding and auction for an advertisement space or processing information regarding a bid for an advertisement space. (Capek: Col 3, lines 1 through Col 4, line 7)

7. Claims 105, 109, 110, 112, and 113 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ginter et al. (U.S. Patent Number: 5,892,900) in view of Merriman et al. (U.S. Patent Number: 5,948,061) in further view of Capek (U.S. Patent Number: 6,026,369) in further view of Mccandless ("Web advertising" Intelligent Systems and Their Applications, IEEE, Volume: 13, Issue: 3, May/Jun 1998, page(s): 8-9).

Claim 105: Ginter, Merriman and Capek disclose the computer implemented method of Claim 104. While Ginter, Merriman and Capek do not specifically state that the information regarding an advertisement associated with the merchant includes banner advertisements the analogous art of McCandless discloses that the most common Type of web advertisements is the banner ad (Page 1, Col 3, line 38 through Page 2, Col 1, line 14). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use banner advertisements in the invention disclosed by Ginter, Merriman and Capek. The rationale for including banner advertisements is that they are the most common type of web advertisement.

Claims 109, 110, 112, and 113: Ginter, Merriman and Capek disclose the computer implemented method of claim 101. While Ginter, Merriman and Capek do not

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specifically state the step of determining and storing a commission or a referral fee due to the content provider pursuant to the affiliated marketing relationship and processing and storing a payment of the commission or the referral fee due to the content provider pursuant to the affiliated marketing relationship, the analogous art of McCandless discloses that charging advertisers based upon the number of Unique impression server (Page 2, Col 1, lines 15-29). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to utilize the placement summary disclosed by Capek to charge the advertiser based upon the impressions identified in the summary and to keep the financial records of such transactions. The rationale for doing so is that it is common to use a cost per impression based pricing methodology when charging an advertiser for advertisement placement.

Response to Arguments

8. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 101, 102, 104-119, 123 and 124 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

9. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP

§ 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JOHN VAN BRAMER whose telephone number is (571)272-8198. The examiner can normally be reached on 6am - 4pm Monday through Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Eric Stamber can be reached on (571) 272-6724. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

JV

/J. V./

Examiner, Art Unit 3622

/Eric W. Stamber/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3622